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DE RUEHWN #0606 1352126
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 152126Z MAY 07
FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
TO RUMIAAA/HQ USSOUTHCOM J5 MIAMI FL
INFO RUMIAAA/HQ USSOUTHCOM J3 MIAMI FL
RUDGABP/DET 1 450G ANTIGUA AC//CC/QE//
RUDGDOC/45SW PATRICK AFB FL//
RUEHCV/USDAO CARACAS VE
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC//DHO-5//
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4725

UNCLAS BRIDGETOWN 000606

SIPDIS

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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ASEC](#) [OTRA](#) [AC](#) [XL](#)

SUBJECT: COUNTRY CLEARANCE GRANTED TO RODRIGUEZ PLUS FIFTEEN FOR
TRAVEL TO ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

REF: 141707Z MAY 07

11. Embassy Bridgetown grants country clearance to the following
USSOUTHCOM J5 personnel for travel, Antigua and Barbuda on the
below-mentioned dates. The purpose of this mission is to attend the
Caribbean Nations Security Conference (CANSEC) 2007.

Major Heidi Rodriguez, USA, 16 May - 25 May, 2007
MSGT Spencer, USAF, 16 May - 25 May, 2007
MSGT Pajor, USAF, 16 May - 25 May, 2007
Capt Garrety Ebel, USAF, 16 May - 25 May, 2007
Capt Christopher McIntosh, USMC, 16 May - 25 May, 2007
Capt Jose Guandique, USA, 16 May - 25 May, 2007
Mr. Izell Styles, CIV, 16 May - 25 May, 2007
Mr. Russell Biggs, CIV, 16 May - 25 May, 2007
SSG Chavarria, USA, 16 May - 25 May, 2007
LTC Tyler Fitzgerald, USA, 18 May - 25 May, 2007
Mr. Steve Klingel, CIV, 18 May - 25 May, 2007
Mr. Frank Tabares, CIV, 18 May - 25 May, 2007
CDR Michael McGehee, USN, 18 May - 26 May, 2007
COL Jose Rivera-Gaud, USAF, 19 May - 25 May, 2007
Mr. Joseph Dillard, CIV, 20 May - 25 May, 2007
BG Michael Moeller, USAF, 22 May - 25 May, 2007

12. Embassy points of contact CDR P. Kofi Aboagye, Chief, Military
Liaison Office, (246) 227-4339 or cell (246) 227-2705; Major Curtis
Schmucker, Deputy Chief, Military Liaison Office, (246) 227-4166 or
cell (246) 227-2712; and Major Rachelle Harris, Operations Officer,
(246) 227-4123 or cell (246) 227-2725.

13. The exchange rate is approximately \$2.70 xcd (Eastern Caribbean)
dollars for \$1.00 U.S. dollar. U.S. currency, traveler's checks, and
credit cards are routinely and widely accepted here.

14. Entry requirements: A valid U.S passport is required to enter
Antigua and Barbuda. No visa is required if your stay is under
twenty-eight days, including those travelers arriving with
diplomatic or official passports.

15. Departure tax for Antigua and Barbuda is \$50.00 ECC (Eastern
Caribbean Currency) or \$19.00 USD.

16. The following is general information pertaining to security and
health considerations throughout the Eastern Caribbean:

Security

In the Eastern Caribbean, foot travel outside of well-established
tourist areas is not generally recommended, especially at night. Be
vigilant when using public telephones or ATM facilities near
roadsides or quiet areas. As in many U.S. metropolitan areas,
wearing expensive jewelry, carrying expensive objects, or carrying

large amounts of cash should be avoided. Visitors should also safeguard valuables while at the beach. While hotels are generally safe, many visitors have experienced loss of unattended items. Hotel burglaries are not uncommon and all valuables should be locked in room safes if possible.

Health information

Throughout the Eastern Caribbean, the most likely threat to a visitor's health is sunburn. It takes several weeks to become accustomed to the heat and humidity. Prolonged exposure to the sun, without protection, causes sunburn, and may ultimately result in sun-damaged skin or even skin cancer. Sunscreens should be used for protection. In Barbados, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent, the major health threat is dengue fever, transmitted by the aedes aegypti mosquito. Dengue cases are most often seen in the summer months. Persons should therefore protect themselves with insect repellent. There is also a growing number of HIV/AIDS cases reported. The Eastern Caribbean enjoys clean and safe drinking water. Only routine boosters for immunizations (i.e. tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis and oral polio vaccine) are required when traveling to this region. Barbados has the best medical facilities of all the islands in the region and most of the medical specialties have practitioners here.

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